GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:676
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2005
WET LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN AIR INDIA AND JET AIRWAYS
Angadi Shri Suresh Chanabasappa;Bhadana Shri Avtar Singh;Gao Shri Tapir;Patasani Dr. (Prof.) Prasanna Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib;Zahedi Shri Mahboob

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India and Jet Airways have signed a wet lease agreement;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(c) to what extent Air India is likely to be benefited by this agreement?

Answer

- MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a)& (b): Air India has wet-leased one A340-300E aircraft from M/s. Jet Airways for the period 09.07.2005 to 27.07.2005 to operate approximately 19 RT flights at USD 4200 per Block Hour. This short term measure had to be adopted in the overall interest of Air India as it was facing acute shortage of B747-400 aircraft capacity during July, 2005 entailing withdrawal of one B747-400 aircraft from scheduled operations.

(c): Air India has avioded cancellation of flights which would have resulted in consequent adverse impact in terms of expenditure on endorsement of tickets to other carriers, hotel accommodation, denied boarding charges etc., besides also leading to
(i) loss of credibility in the market and inconvenience to passengers on the highly competitive India/London route,
(ii) problems in retaining slots at London Heathrow in the event of non-operation of flights and

(iii) reduced out-bound loads in August 2005, due to the non-carriage of inbound traffic in July, 2005.